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DCI/IC 74-2381

Noted by DCI
11/25/74

ICS ACTIVITIES REPORT NO. 5

12 November 1974

A summary of Intelligence Community Staff actions and activities of interest to the community.

1. NSCIC Working Group Reconstituted

On 10 October the Chairman of the National Security Council Intelligence Committee announced that the NSCIC Working Group was being reconstituted as a group of "intelligence users" with representation limited to one member for each NSCIC principal, and with the DCI's representative as the chairman and the only "intelligence producer." The DCI named General Wilson, head of the IC Staff, as his representative.

General Wilson has organized an Intelligence Panel under his chairmanship, composed of senior representatives from DIA, CIA, NSA, INR/State and the Deputy to the DCI for the National Intelligence Officers. The role of the Panel will evolve as the Working Group program develops; however, it will contribute intelligence inputs for the Working Group and provide a way to keep the Community informed of Working Group actions. The Intelligence Panel held its first meeting on October 25th, a few days before the Working Group meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for 18 November, to be followed by a Working Group meeting on November 20th.

2. USIB Committees Program

The IC Staff has been supporting the DCI in recent months in a program to review and refine the role of the USIB committees and direct their efforts to specific tasks relating to the DCI's Community responsibilities. A number of steps have resulted. The DCI has issued overall guidance to the committee chairmen. He has provided individual letters of instruction to the chairmen listing specific tasks to be undertaken during the current fiscal year. He has met personally with each of the committees and has begun a program of regular meetings with the committee chairmen. The D/DCI/IC serves as overall coordinator for this program.

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3. Improving the Warning Process

The IC Staff is chairing two ad hoc task groups of Community representatives on separate but related aspects of the warning process. One group is examining proposals to revitalize the Watch Committee/National Indications Center mechanism and streamline the strategic warning process. The basis for the group's efforts is a study conducted by the Acting Chairman of the Watch Committee of existing warning mechanisms in the Community which resulted in a number of tentative proposals for improving the process. USIB has requested formal proposals for its consideration.

A second group is preparing implementing instructions for USIB's consideration of a new DCI product -- the "Alerting Memorandum." Such memoranda will provide the DCI with a means of formally alerting national policymakers to potential crisis situations.

Responding to a NSCIC request, the IC Staff is also preparing a report on warning intelligence and the handling of information in pre-crisis and crisis situations for submission to the NSCIC Working Group.

4. Encouraging More Responsive Reporting

The Department of State and CIA have agreed to open a channel for informal direct communication between CIA production analysts and collectors. As noted in State Airgram A-7707 to all diplomatic posts, encouraging voluntary comments from CIA production offices or individual analysts on current reporting provided by US missions abroad should assist missions by identifying particularly valuable reporting, providing indications of the uses to which the posts' reporting is being put, and sharpening the focus of the periodic intelligence guidance by identifying areas of special current interest or specific points on which more information is needed. Communications are to be simple, informal, and unofficial. The IC Staff's goal in fostering this exchange is to offer more opportunity for direct and timely comment, and thus encourage more responsive reporting.

The Staff has also begun a program to brief new foreign service officers at the completion of their introductory training. The presentation discusses how foreign service reporting relates to national intelligence.

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5. National Foreign Intelligence Program

The DCI's National Foreign Intelligence Program Recommendations for Fiscal Year 1976 will be ready for review by program managers on 22 November, after which the document will be reviewed by IRAC and is scheduled for submission to the President on 5 December with tentative dollar levels. Final figures will be appended on 24 December.

The IC Staff has been participating and assisting in the joint OSD/OMB budget hearings on the FY 1976 review of the Consolidated Defense Intelligence Budget and in the joint CIA/OMB hearings on the FY 1976 review of the CIAP.

6. Intelligence Community Catalog of Education/Training Courses

At present each intelligence agency publishes its own catalog of training courses using different types of data, formats, etc. To assist in career development and course selection, the IC Staff has developed a catalog format and software to produce a Community index of courses. CIA's Office of Training is presently reviewing the package for format, completeness and ease of production. Once this is done and appropriate changes have been made, the package will be reviewed by other Community trainers. CIA's Director of Training has indicated that CIA would consider producing the catalog once it is approved by the Community.

7. Monthly Index to Pravda

In his Perspectives for Intelligence, 1975-1980, the DCI requested that the Community take steps to deepen its knowledge of foreign cultures and thought processes, especially with respect to nations important in political, economic or military terms. He also called on the Community to develop new methods of exploitation and presentation of material, where appropriate. In response, a project has been worked out by CIA, the State Department, ARPA and the IC Staff in association with the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, located at Ohio State University. The Association, which presently publishes the Current Digest of Soviet Press, will put out a very detailed monthly index to Pravda, starting in January 1975, which will be available to subscribers of the "Digest" as well as on the open market. This is a three-year project, the costs of which are being shared with the publisher, at the end of which time it is expected that the Index will be self-sustaining. Depending upon demand, coverage could be extended to other publications.

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8. Telemetry Dependence Study

The IC Staff has completed an ad hoc study for the DCI which examines the dependence of the Intelligence Community on foreign system telemetry as well as the dependence of the Community's consumers on the intelligence derived from telemetry. The study was triggered in part by the number of potential situations which could result in a denial of a portion of the telemetry currently available.

The study did not attempt to provide major conclusions or recommendations on any particular issues, but rather to answer in its broadest sense the question: How dependent are we on telemetry? A number of significant observations and findings which warrant attention are contained in the study report which was delivered to the DCI on November 2nd.



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10. Key Intelligence Questions Evaluation Process

Nearly all Performance Reports have now been received from the Community on the 11 FY 1974 KIQs being evaluated in the Pilot Program. An aggregate performance report will be issued after all reports have been received and analyzed. Guidance and instructions for the FY 1975 evaluation program will be forthcoming after the Pilot Program evaluation is completed.

11. National Intelligence Bulletin Review

The Working Subcommittee on the National Intelligence Bulletin, chaired by the IC Staff with representatives from CIA, DIA, NSA, and INR/State, has been meeting since early October to review the charter of the NIB in light of new DIA current intelligence procedures and proposals for changes in NIB production procedures. A final draft incorporating member agencies' recommendations has been sent out for approval.

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12. The Murphy Commission on the Organization of the Government for the Conduct of Foreign Policy

The DCI provided a brief status report to USIB at its 24 October meeting on the progress of the Murphy Commission and its examination of the subject of how intelligence relates to foreign policy. Mr. Colby noted that the Commission's charter was very broad and that members of Ambassador Murphy's staff may be in contact with the Board Principals or their staffs. He told the Principals he would appreciate hearing who had been interviewed and the general thrust of their briefings. [] of the IC Staff is the point of contact on Murphy Commission matters for the DCI. []

STAFF NOTES

The IC Staff, under the direction of Lt. Gen. Samuel V. Wilson, USA, Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence Community, assists the DCI in his Intelligence Community responsibilities. The staff consists of three main elements: the Management, Planning and Resource Review Division which monitors the budget development process throughout the Community; the Product Review Division which reviews and evaluates the factual and analytical product of the Community; and the Collection and Processing Assessment Division which conducts national level review and assessment of Community collection and processing activities. A small Coordination Staff handles special tasks and provides support to the D/DCI/IC in a variety of Community-related areas.

Arrivals to the Staff:

[] reported for duty 2 October as Principal Deputy to the D/DCI/IC for Planning, a new function. [] will coordinate all planning activity of the IC Staff and monitor intelligence planning efforts throughout the Community.

[] arrived from DIA/DE on 16 September. As Special Assistant to the AD/DCI/IC, he will conduct special studies for []

[] reported for duty on 16 September to work with CPAD's HUMINT Group.

During the past two months, the IC Staff has continued to contribute actively to training programs for intelligence personnel. Staff members have lectured on a variety of topics to a broad audience, both here and elsewhere in the country.

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For additional information concerning items appearing in this report, please telephone []

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